WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- An operating device for a lifting platform, comprising:
 - a housing, the housing including:
 - a cover: and
 - a plurality of operating elements, each operating element being configured to operate the lifting platform, each operating element disposed in the cover and formed as a foot switch;

wherein the housing is configured to be arranged in a sunken manner in a floor, the cover being configured to be disposed at a level of the floor.

- The operating device according to claim 1, wherein the lifting platform is configured to lift a motor vehicle.
- 3. The operating device according to claim 1, wherein an upper side of the cover is configured to be aligned with the level of the floor.
- 4. The operating device according to claim 1, wherein the operating elements include a first foot switch configured to lift the lifting platform, a second foot switch configured to lower the lifting platform and a safety foot switch, the first foot switch, the second foot switch and the safety foot switch being arranged inside of the cover, the safety foot switch being arranged at a distance to the first foot switch and the second foot switch, the safety foot switch being

configured to activate the first foot switch and the second foot switch.

- 5. The operating device according to claim 1, wherein the operating elements include an emergency de-activation foot switch arranged inside of the cover.
- 6. The operating device according to claim 1, wherein the housing includes a foundation pan, the foundation pan including a bottom plate, a longitudinal wall and a transverse wall.
- 7. The operating device according to claim 6, further comprising an outlet connection piece disposed on the bottom plate.
- 8. The operating device according to claim 6, further comprising an empty pipe connection piece disposed in at least one of the longitudinal wall and the transverse wall, the empty pipe connection piece being configured to receive at least one line connected to at least one of a switching device and the lifting platform.
- 9. The operating device according to claim 1, further comprising at least one display device provided in one of the housing and the cover, the at least one display device being configured to provide a display in accordance with predetermined operating states.